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**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT**

Please replace the Abstract beginning at page 7, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A telecommunications network includes a plurality of user nodes, a relay node, and a controller ~~means~~. The controller is operative to allocate resources so as to control levels of traffic transmitted from/to the user nodes via the relay node. Specifically, the controller ~~means~~ is operative to allocate a data transmission rate for traffic from user nodes via the relay node to user nodes which is twice that for traffic via the relay node in from or out of the network.